

VI. TREATMENT

A. Preparing Contracts

Prepare applicable contracts (i.e. herbicide treatment, removal of understory vegetation, tree felling and removal, stump grinding and/or treatment, hydroseeding).

B. Prepping Site (Clearing)

***Treat site with a broadleaf herbicide**



If an area is overgrown with an understory of herbaceous plants, treat with an approved herbicide. Do not cut plants immediately after application. Wait several weeks to allow herbicide to be absorbed through the leaves and penetrate into the root system. Check herbicide label for application times. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)

***Cut understory and tree saplings using various types of equipment.**



Brush mower with boom allows mowing without driving on earthworks.
(Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Rough cut understory down to 5 inches. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Walk-behind powered mowers mulch and cut remaining stubble down to ground level. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Chainsaws and brushcutters are used to cut woody stem plants flush with ground. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)

***Collect soil samples from various locations and submit to laboratory for analysis to determine current pH and nitrate level**



Soil samples are necessary in order to prescribe the correct rate of fertilizer and lime. (2/2000)

***Remove branches that may impale the ground before trees are felled**



Use bucket truck or tree climbers to remove branches in the direction of the fall. (Battery XI, 9/1997)

***Fell and remove large trees from earthworks in areas where lower vegetation has already been removed**



Use "soft logging" techniques to ensure felled trees will not impact or impale any historical features. These features include the earthworks, bomb-proofs, magazines, etc. (Battery XI, 9/1997)



Flush cut all deciduous tree stumps level with ground. (Battery XI, 9/1997)

***Treat deciduous tree stumps within one hour to reduce the possibility of the tree re-sprouting**



Use an effective, approved stump treatment. Conifers will not resprout and therefore do not need to be treated. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)

***Cut trees into sections before removal**



The use of vehicles with flotation tires will reduce the occurrence of ruts being left on the landscape. (Battery XI, 9/1997)



Cranes can assist in getting large pieces out and over earthwork walls. This method is most useful when access to the fort is limited. (Battery XIII, 4/1998)

- * **Rake any remaining vegetation or duff off the earthworks to ensure a good soil/seed contact for germination**



Hand raking is necessary to remove duff from the earthworks. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Fort Wadsworth after hand raking. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Once the duff is off the earthworks, mechanical means can be employed for raking into piles.
(Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Removal of duff is easily handled at this point by a front-end loader. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)

*** Stump removal and rehabilitation**



Grind stumps approximately four (4) inches below grade. Deciduous tree stumps should be ground at least three months after herbicide treatment which will allow the stump treatment to be more effective. (Fort Stedman, 9/1997)



Fill void of stump with topsoil prior to seeding. This will better enable mowers to cut grass. (Fort Stedman, 9/1997)

*** Aerate earthworks**



Use a “spiked” roller. DO NOT use the plugged type. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)



Aerate earthworks prior to hydroseeding. (Fort Wadsworth, 10/1994)

C. Seeding

- Hydroseeding should occur as soon as possible after the earthworks have been raked down to mineral soil to reduce erosion potential from wind or precipitation.
- Selected grass seed for hydroseeding should meet specifications. (Outlined in Section V)
- Placing straw on earthworks after they are seeded will provide an extra measure of protection.
- Irrigate the earthworks to jump-start seed germination if precipitation is not in the immediate weather forecast.



Hydroseeding at Fort Wadsworth from perimeter using truck mounted hydroseeder. (11/1994)

Sometimes hydroseeding vehicles cannot access forts which requires the use of hoses. (Fort Stedman, 9/1997)





Straw can be applied for additional erosion protection. (Fort Stedman, 9/1997)



Jute netting should be applied only on those areas that are too steep to be mowed. It is inappropriate in areas to be mowed (as shown above) because the netting becomes entangled in mower blades, ripping up large sections of jute and metal staples. (Fort Gregg, 1992)